

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, before paragraph 0001, insert as new paragraph:

--CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

This application is a National Stage entry of International Application No. PCT/JP2005/002966, filed February 17, 2005, the entire specification claims and drawings of which are incorporated herewith by reference. --

Please amend the second full paragraph on page 26 as follows:

The fulcrum portion 31 and the secondary support portion 34 are provided on each side wall 43, the gear portion 32 is provided on the connecting wall 44 in such a manner as to extend from the base portion 41 to the projecting portion 42, and the primary support portion 33 is provided on each projecting wall 45. As shown in Fig. 4, the fulcrum portion 31 is pivot supported on a support portion 23c formed on the bearing cap 23b. The support portion 23c defines a hole 71 having a circular section in cooperation with a holding cap 70 connected to an upper end portion of the bearing cap 23b with a bolt, so that a support shaft 31a formed on the fulcrum portion 31 is inserted into the hole 71 in such a manner as to slide therein. Then, a support shaft 31a of a holder 30 belonging to the adjacent cylinder 1 is supported on the common ~~gearing~~ bearing cap 23b.

Please amend the first full paragraph on page 29 bridging page 30 as follows:

The primary support portion, which regulates the primary oscillating center line L4, is provided on a lower end portion of the projecting portion 42 which constitutes a location closer to the inlet cam 21 and has a cylindrical support shaft 35 which is press fitted into a hole formed in each side wall 43. The primary rocker arm 50, which is supported by the support shaft 35 at a fulcrum portion 51 in an oscillatory fashion via a multiplicity of needles 36, abuts with the inlet cam 21 at a roller 53 possessed by a cam abutment portion 52 made up of one end portion of the primary rocker arm 50 and abuts with the secondary rocker arm 60 at a drive abutment portion 54 made up of the other end

portion thereof. In the primary rocker arm 50, the fulcrum portion 51 is provided at an intermediate portion which is a location between the cam abutment portion 52 and the drive abutment portion 54. Then, the primary rocker arm 50 is biased by virtue of a biasing force of a biasing device (not shown) such as a spring held by the holder 30 such that the roller 53 is pressed against the inlet cam 24 at all times. In addition, an accommodation space 57 for accommodating therein the roller 53 is provided in the primary rocker arm 50 in such a manner as to extend from the fulcrum portion 51 to the cam abutment portion 52, and the accommodation space 57 constitutes an escape space which allows the passage of a cam lobe portion 21b of the rotating inlet cam 21. Then, the primary rocker arm 50 and the inlet cam 24 21 can be disposed close to each other, while the interference of the primary rocker arm 50 with the inlet cam 24 is avoided by the accommodation space 57.

Please amend the first full paragraph on page 30 bridging page 31 as follows:

The secondary support portion 34, which regulates the ~~primary oscillating center line~~ L5 secondary oscillation center line L5, is provided on the base portion 41 so as to be situated between the primary support portion 33 and the holder oscillating center line L3 in the orthogonal direction A2 and has a support shaft 37 which is press fitted into a hole formed in each side wall 43. The secondary rocker arm 60, which is supported by the support shaft 37 at a fulcrum portion 61 in an oscillatory fashion via a multiplicity of needles 38, abuts with the drive abutment portion 54 of the primary rocker arm 50 at a roller 63 possessed by a follower abutment portion 62 made up of one end portion of the secondary rocker arm 60 and abuts with the valve stems 14a as the abutment

portions of the pair of inlet valves 14, respectively, at adjustment screws 65 possessed by a pair of valve abutment portions 64 made up of the other end portion thereof. Here, in the secondary rocker arm 60, the valve abutment portion 64 is a location which is situated closer to the inlet valve 14 and is also a location which is situated on an extension of the valve spring 13 in a direction (a direction parallel to the axis L7) in which the valve spring 13 extends and contracts. Then, in the secondary rocker arm 60, the fulcrum portion 61 is provided on an intermediate portion which is a location between the follower abutment portion 62 and the valve abutment portion 64. In addition, since the sectional shape of the roller 63 is of a circular shape, the sectional shape of an abutment surface of the follower abutment portion 62, which is brought into abutment with a cam profile 55, which will be described later, is of an arc-like shape, as well.

Please amend the first full paragraph on page 32 bridging page 33 as follows:

The lost motion profile 55a is formed so as to have an arc-like sectional shape which is formed about the primary oscillating center line L4 and is designed such that the valve drive force F1 of the ~~inlet valve 21~~ inlet cam 21 which is transmitted via the primary rocker arm 50 is not transmitted to the ~~secondary arm 60~~ secondary rocker arm 60 in a state in which a clearance is formed between the lost motion profile 55a and the roller 63, as well as in a state in which the roller 63 is in abutment with the lost motion profile 55a. As this occurs, the primary rocker arm 50 is in a rest state where the secondary rocker arm 60 is not oscillated by the inlet cam 21 via the primary rocker arm 50. Then, when the primary rocker arm 50 and the secondary rocker arm 60 are brought into

abutment with each other in a state where the roller 53 of the primary rocker arm 50 is in abutment with a base circle portion 21a of the inlet cam 21, the roller 63 abuts with the lost motion profile 55a at all times. Consequently, when the arm abutment position P2 is located at an arbitrary position on the lost motion profile 55a, the inlet valve 14 is maintained in the closed state by virtue of the spring force of the valve spring 13, and a valve clearance is formed between a valve abutment surface 65a of the adjustment screw 65 which acts as a valve abutment surface of the valve abutment portion 64 and a distal end surface 14b of the valve stem 14a which acts as an abutment surface of the inlet valve 14.